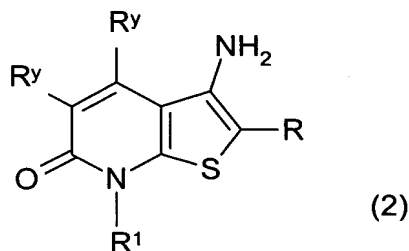


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (2):



wherein

R is a -CN, -NO₂, -CO₂Alk², -COC₁₋₆alkyl or -CONHet² group;

Alk² is an optionally substituted alkyl, ~~arylalkyl~~ arylalkyl, aryl, ~~aryloxyalkyl~~ aryloxyalkyl, ~~alkanoyloxyalkyl~~ alkanoyloxyalkyl or ~~areloxyalkyl~~ aroyloxyalkyl group;

NHet² is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group -CO;

R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group;
and

each R^y, which may be the same or different, is ~~each~~ a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor;

~~and the salts, solvates, hydrates, protected derivatives and N-oxides thereof~~
or a salt, solvate, hydrate, protected derivative, or N-oxide thereof.

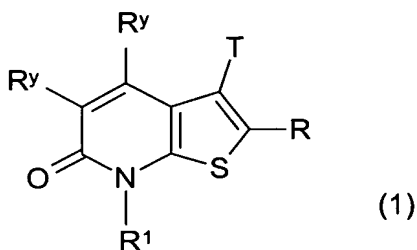
2. (original) A compound according to Claim 1 in which R¹ is an optionally substituted phenyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl, thienyl, indolyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl group.
3. (original) A compound according to Claim 2 wherein R¹ is an optionally substituted phenyl or cyclopropyl group.
4. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~, Claim 1 in which each R^y is a hydrogen atom.

5. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~, Claim 1 in which Alk^2 is a C_{1-6} alkyl group.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~, Claim 1 wherein R is a -CN, $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{COCH}_3$ or $-\text{CONHet}^2$ group.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a halide of formula (1):



wherein ~~R, R^1 and R^y are as defined in Claim 1~~

R is a -CN, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{Alk}^2$, $-\text{COC}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$ or $-\text{CONHet}^2$ group;

Alk^2 is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aroyloxyalkyl group;

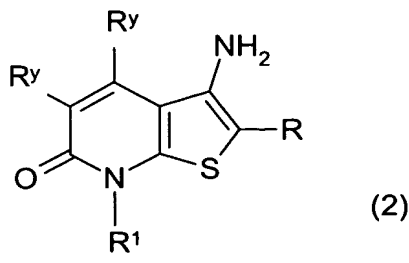
NHet^2 is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group -CO;

R^1 is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group;

each R^y , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor; and

T is ~~as defined in Claim 7~~ a halogen atom;

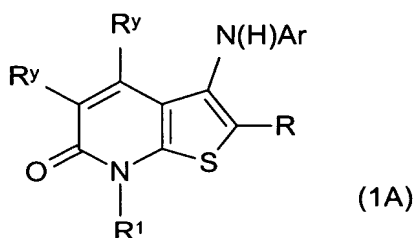
which comprises diazotization of a compound of formula (2); ~~as defined in Claim 1,~~



followed by halide displacement.

9. (original) A process according to Claim 8 wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of an alkyl nitrite or a metal nitrite in the presence of an acid, followed by addition of a copper salt, in the presence of a solvent.

10. (currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound of formula (1A):



wherein ~~R, R¹ and R^y are as defined in Claim 1~~

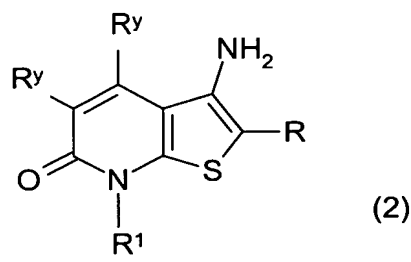
R is a -CN, -NO₂, -CO₂Alk², -COC₁₋₆alkyl or -CONHet² group;

Alk² is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aryloxyalkyl group;

NHet² is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group -CO;

R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group;
each R^y, which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor; and

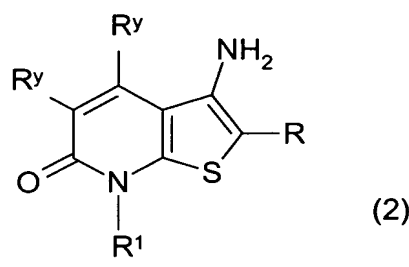
Ar is an optionally substituted aromatic or heteroaromatic group;
which comprises reacting a compound of formula (2); ~~as defined in Claim 1,~~



with a compound ArQ,

wherein Q is a leaving group,
in the presence of a transition metal catalyst.

11. (original) A process according to Claim 10 wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of a solvent, using a palladium catalyst, a phosphine ligand and a base.
12. (original) A process according to Claim 10 wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of a copper catalyst.
13. (currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound of formula (2); ~~as defined in Claim 1,~~



wherein

R is a -CN, -NO₂, -CO₂Alk², -COC₁₋₆alkyl or -CONHet² group;

Alk² is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aroyloxyalkyl group;

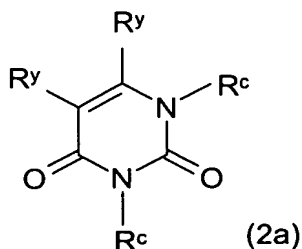
NHet² is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group -CO;

R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group;

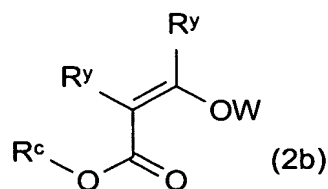
each Ry, which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor;

which comprises the steps of:

- a) reacting a compound of formula (2a) or (2b):



or



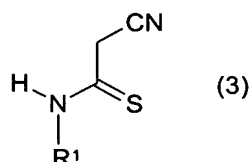
wherein

~~R^y is as defined in Claim 1;~~

R^c is an optionally substituted alkyl group, and

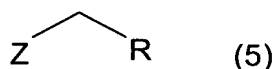
W is a hydrogen atom, a metal ion or an amine salt;

with a compound of formula (3):



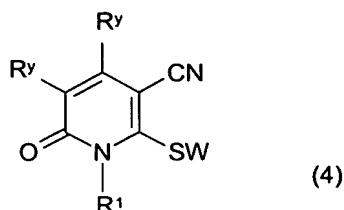
~~wherein R⁺ is as defined in Claim 1;~~

b) followed by reaction with a compound of formula (5):



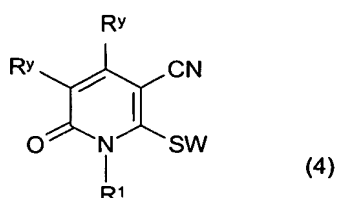
wherein ~~R is as defined in Claim 1~~ and Z is a leaving group.

14. (original) The process according to Claim 13 wherein W is a metal ion.
15. (currently amended) The process according to Claim 13 ~~or Claim 14~~ wherein step a) is performed in the presence of a base.
16. (currently amended) The process according to Claim 15 wherein the base is selected from a lithium base, a silazane, a carbonate, an alkoxide, a hydroxide, a hydride, an organic amine, ~~or~~ and a cyclic amine.
17. (currently amended) The process according to ~~any one of Claims 13 to 16~~ Claim 13 wherein the reaction is carried out in an organic solvent.
18. (currently amended) The process according to Claim 17 wherein step a) and step b) ~~is~~ are each carried out in a an organic solvent, which may be the same or different in each step, selected from an amide, an ether, an alcohol ~~or~~ and acetonitrile.
19. (currently amended) The process according to ~~any one of Claims 13 to 18~~ Claim 13 wherein an intermediate of formula (4) is isolated after step a):



wherein R^1 and R^y are as defined in Claim 1 and W is as defined in Claim 13.

20. (currently amended) A compound of formula (4):

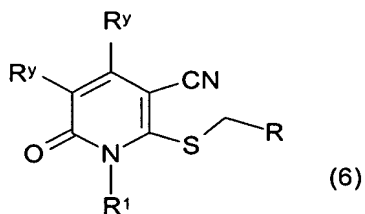


wherein R^1 and R^y are as defined in Claim 1 and W is as defined in Claim 13

R^1 is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group;
each R^y , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor; and

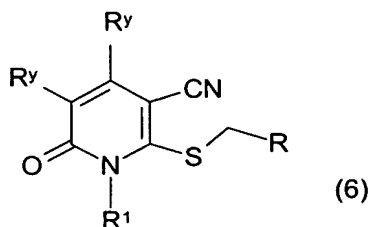
W is a hydrogen atom, a metal ion or an amine salt.

21. (currently amended) The process according to ~~any one of Claims 13 to 19~~ Claim 13 wherein an intermediate of formula (6) is isolated during step b):



wherein R^1 , R and R^y are as defined in Claim 1.

22. (currently amended) A compound of formula (6):



wherein ~~R¹, R and R^y are as defined in Claim 1~~

R is a -CN, -NO₂, -CO₂Alk², -COC₁₋₆alkyl or -CONHet² group;

Alk² is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aroyloxyalkyl group;

NHet² is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group -CO;

R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group;
and

each R^y, which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor.